

The True Northerner.

VOLUME 1. NUMBER 1.

PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1901.

WHOLE NUMBER 2396.

W. K. DRY GOODS, BOOTS AND SHOES.

We write Ladies' Attention

Subject: Made-to-Measure Suits.

We receipt of the Spring Plates, showing the fashions and Sample Books of Fabrics fresh they are made.

Our line includes six hundred of the Choicest Spring and Summer, comprising

All Novelties in Weave and Color!

We display for nearly seventy-five of the NEWEST TAILORED COST. Every garment is made strictly to measure, according to taste of the customer.

Altho style and workmanship, our creations represent perfection tailor's art, our prices CHALLENGE COMPARISON with demanded for gowns and wraps of ordinary make.

OUR PRICES ARE \$10.00 AND UPWARDS

Strictly Tailor-Made Suits.

ADDITION TO SUITS WE DISPLAY

Taff Jacket and Dress Skirts,

WING SUITS AND UNLINED CLOTH SKIRTS,

and are ready to make these garments to your measure, of the goods and style which you select.

We sit your inspection of our lines!

hoping that we can please you in every particular.

WM. R. SELICK.

H. C. WATERS & CO.--HARDWARE.

THE TRUE NORTHERNER.

PUBLISHED BY
THE TRUE NORTHERNER PUBLISHING COMPANY.

M. O. ROYLAND, Editor and Manager.
Largest circulation in the County
Subscription, \$1.50 A YEAR.
\$1.00 PAID IN ADVANCE.
Bell phone 43.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

W. C. Y. Ferguson, D. D. S.

Dental Parlors.

All operations, including Crown and Bridge work, rendered as painless as possible. Office in Longwell Block, Paw Paw, Mich.

Dr. E. D. Sargent,
First door west of Town Hall,
2327tf Glendale, Mich.

R. E. Chappell,
GRADUATE OPTICIAN. Eyes properly fitted and warranted satisfactory. At G. E. Chappell's jewelry store, Paw Paw, Mich. [90tf]

A. Lynn Free--Lawyer,
Office over Avery's store, Paw Paw, Michigan.

David Anderson--Lawyer.
All business given prompt and careful attention. Office over Paw Paw Savings Bank.

Chandler & Barnard,
Attorneys at law. Office opposite court house, Paw Paw. [2389]

Lincoln H. Titus,
Attorney at Law--Abstract Building--Law, Insurance and Collections.

Osborn, Mills & Master,
Attorneys at Law. Offices, Academy of Music Block, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Can supply loans on good real estate.

H. W. McCabe, Auctioneer,
Paw Paw, Mich. Services always satisfactory. Terms reasonable. [tf]

Paw Paw Savings Bank.
Capital \$10,000.00. F. W. SELICK, Pres.
J. J. WOODMAN, J. W. FREE,
Vice Pres., Cashier.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
J. J. Woodman, Daniel Morrison,
John W. Free, W. R. Selick,
F. W. Selick, William J. Selick,
C. E. Lyle, L. H. Titus.

Interest Paid on Certificates of Deposit.

Wood.

I am prepared to deliver wood promptly, at the market price. C. S. HOSKINS.

To Loan.

A few thousand dollars to loan on real estate security. LINCOLN H. TITUS.

tf

Money to loan on real estate.
60tf] E. F. PARKS.

Dry Wood--Baled Hay.
C. S. Hoskins yet has 300 cords of dry wood. Leave orders for him at J. D. Holmes' hardware store. He also has and will constantly keep baled hay of different kinds and prices at his residence on east Main street, or will deliver it at your barn for spot cash. He solicits a share of your trade.

Money to Loan on Farm Securities.
\$750 to \$1,000 at 7 per cent.
\$1,000 to \$2,000 at 8 per cent.
\$2,000 to \$5,000 at 9 per cent.
\$5,000 upward at 10 per cent.
Phone at residence. [2380tf]
R. E. JENNINGS, Paw Paw.

R. A. Shoemith, residence 57 Pine St., just west of Presbyterian church. [54tf]

Thompson Furniture Co.
Furniture and Undertaking.
Night calls answered, 31 North Niles street. [2365]

Livery and Feed Barn.
I have purchased the livery and feed business of James M. Longwell and am prepared to furnish first class rigs of all kinds at reasonable prices. Your trade invited. Dyckman House barn, tf] C. W. SUMMY.

Paper Hanging.
Done in the best possible manner. We are agents for the celebrated Potter Wall Paper Mills (not in the trust) and can sell you wall paper cheaper than anyone. Interior and exterior decorating. Office and paint shop, east Main street. 49tf] JAS. A. LEECH & SON.

Pensions.
Having recently been admitted to practice before the department of the interior, I shall hold myself in readiness to transact any business before the department that may be entrusted to me. Especial attention will be given to pension claims. 03tf] O. W. ROWLAND.

Geo. L. Bruner.
Contractor and building mover, all kinds of plain and fancy stone work done. Will take contracts for all kinds of building and repairing and furnish everything. Satisfaction guaranteed. I sell and set up Snow Bros. furnaces. Kibbie phone at residence. GEO. L. BRUNER.

Wood is Legal Tender
In payment of subscription accounts to The True Northerner. [tf]

Wanted.
At the new Armour & Co. building, potatoes and beans and assorted apples; also pared and dried apples. Parties wishing to see Mr. E. S. Stevens, will find him at the building on Thursday and Saturday of each week. [tf]

Dressmaking.
Lena Russell. Prices reasonable. Rooms over Home Bakery. [tf]

Victoria bear for service. I also keep the Bacon & Sykes Jersey bull. FRANK A. SHOWERMAN.
2d house south of depot.

There is but one Russ' Bleaching Blue Three times within a year the courts have suppressed fraudulent imitations.

You take no chances when you buy Russ' Bleaching Blue. This famous article makes clothes whiter than snow. Refuse fraudulent imitations.



A Chance to Save Money.

33 YEARS IN
PAW PAW

I have a large stock of Marble and Granite, all as good material as money will buy. Some 30 monuments, large and small, I shall offer for 60 days at very close to actual cost. Terms made easy. Paw Paw Marble and Granite Works. I. A. WHITMAN.

The leading fire insurance companies represented by E. F. PARKS.

Local Department.

J. E. Chandler went to Detroit on business Tuesday evening.

Jud Randall and wife will return to their former home in Hillsdale.

County Clerk Wakeman is seriously ill with grip and confined to his bed.

E. F. Parks has been ill with grip and confined to the house for several days.

Mrs. E. B. Storms and Miss Quibby of Niles are guests of Mrs. Claire Harrison.

Mrs. E. H. Hinckley of Kalamazoo visited at the home of her father, D. Cooper, the first of the week.

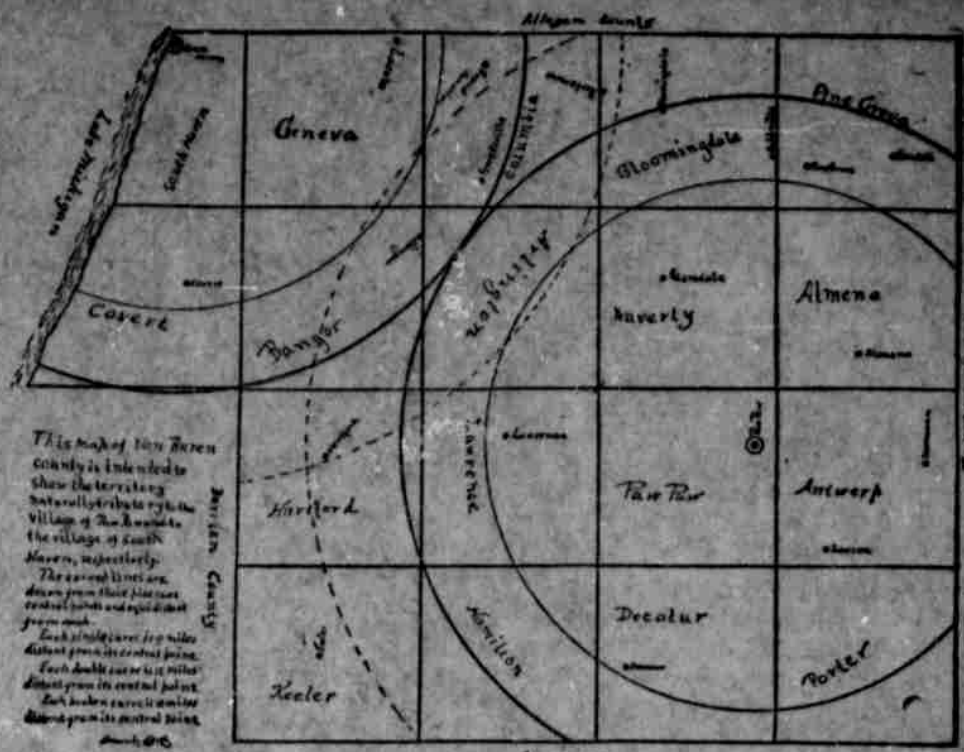
The Antwerp and Paw Paw Farmers' association will meet with Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Woodman, March 7.

Mrs. William Penn and Lester Brown of Bellevue were guests of Mrs. John Marshall last week.

An informal "hop" for the knights and their ladies will be given Thursday evening, February 28, at the K. of P. hall.

Dr. R. B. Raleigh of Sioux City, Iowa, and niece, Miss Zell Raleigh of Chicago, arrived here Monday evening for a short visit with friends.

There will be a sleighride social at the home of Edwin Douglass next Friday. Teams will leave the homes of Rev. Miller and J. H. Waters at 10 a. m.



SOME NEW POINTS IN THE COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL AND BONDING MATTERS.

How Paw Paw Came to be the County Seat--No Other Point Has Been, or Will Be--Some Interesting Population Statistics of a Former Time.

How the County Seat Came to be at Paw Paw.

"History tells us that even before the organization of Van Buren county, Lawrence was settled on and was afterward established by law as the legal county seat."--South Haven Sentinel.

The True Northerner does not read history that way, and takes its history from the official records. Perhaps the Sentinel has a more reliable historian; it certainly must have a different one.

The county of Van Buren was organized by an act of the legislature passed in 1837. This act of organization provided that courts should be held at such place in said county as the board of supervisors thereof should designate.

The first meeting of such board was held a couple of months later and the following is the entire and complete official record of such meeting:

"The supervisors of the towns of Van Buren county met at the village of Paw Paw on the 27th day of May, A. D. 1837, and organized by appointing D. O. Dodge clk. the business of said meeting being for locating the place for the circuit courts of said county.

"Whereupon it is decided that the courts of said county be held at the school-house in the village of Paw Paw. D. O. Dodge, Clk."

Pursuant to the provisions of said act of the legislature and the foregoing resolution of the board of supervisors, the first circuit court ever held in the county was held in Paw Paw (the township was then called Lafayette) in June, 1837.

The following is a verbatim copy of the record of the opening session of such court:

"State of Michigan, ss.
Van Buren County, ss.

"Be it remembered that at a session of the circuit court of the state of Michigan, within and for the county of Van Buren, begun and held pursuant to law, at the court, in Lafayette, in said county, on the first Monday, being the first day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

"Present, Hon. Epaphrodites Ransom, circuit judge, Wolcott H. Keeler & Jay R. Monroe, esqrs., associate judges."

In 1838, the board of supervisors authorized and directed the sheriff to build a jail on the site furnished by Paw Paw, at a cost not to exceed \$400. This sum was subsequently increased to \$600 and a jail was constructed under the provisions of such resolution.

At the annual meeting of the board of supervisors in October, 1838, the following resolution was adopted:

"Pursuant to an act entitled an act to amend the act entitled an act to organize the county of Ionia and Van Buren, approved March 18th, 1838, the supervisors of said county of Van Buren decided that the circuit court for said county shall be held at the school house in the village of Paw Paw. J. H. SIMMONS,
Clerk of the board of supervisors."

The legislature had previously extended the time during which courts should be held as designated by the board, until January 1, 1840, and subsequently passed an act establishing the county seat at Paw Paw, and at Paw Paw it has ever since remained. No sessions of the circuit court were ever held elsewhere, nor was the county seat of the county ever located at any other place, at least as far as appears from the official records.

When the present court house was built in 1842, at a contract price of \$2,304, exclusive of the site which was furnished by citizens of Paw Paw, the entire population of the county was less than 2,000 souls.

The census of 1840 gave Van Buren a population of 1,910. Another census was taken in 1850, at which time the inhabitants of the county numbered but 1,704, a decrease of 206 in the five years.

The county business has continued to be transacted in this same building

for almost 60 years, and yet there are some people who pretend to believe there is no need of a new and more modern, commodious court house. Think of it! A \$3,000 court house, nearly 60 years old and built to accommodate 2,000 people, living in a new country, inhabited by savages, infested by wild beasts and nearly all an unbroken wilderness, still in use by and claimed to be sufficient for a wealthy and prosperous people numbering nearly 34,000 and occupying the very garden spot of Michigan! The idea is preposterous and its mere statement carries with it its own refutation.

But in discussing this question we ought to take into account not only the necessity for more commodious and convenient quarters in which to transact the people's business, but we should also consider the safety of the files and records of the courts and the preservation of the records in the offices of the register of deeds and county treasurer.

There is not a public office at the present time that is roomy enough to accommodate the public business that must needs be transacted therein.

In all the offices in the county office building, the records and files are piled to the ceilings in wooden file and record cases. The rooms have wooden floors and each room contains a stove for heating purposes, and there is a constant danger from fire.

It would be a calamity indeed to the county if the files and records of a single one of these offices should be burned, but the loss of them all would be appalling.

There would then be no possible way of establishing titles except by reference to a set of private abstracts, which of themselves are of no legal force.

It is a well understood fact that the title of all real estate passes through these several county offices every few years and that such titles depend absolutely on the safe keeping of the records of such offices, and the destruction of the records in either of the offices would be an irreparable loss to the people. How much greater would be the loss should they all be consumed!

What the county needs and by all means should have, is a new court house, with fire proof vaults to hold all its public records, and thus remove them from all danger of destruction by fire or loss by burglary.

Let us ask the voter who is doubtful about the bonding proposition this one question: Would you not rather pay your small share of the tax--only about 5 1/2 cents per year--on a hundred dollars of assessed valuation--needed to provide a modern court house and jail and so provide a safe repository for the public records, than to take the chance of having such records destroyed, and face a possible lawsuit over the title to your farm or home, and pay the expenses attending such suit?

Of course every voter favoring removal to South Haven will, if consistent, vote in favor of the proposed law, for if the county seat is moved new buildings will have to be built.

On the other hand every voter who is opposed to a removal of the county seat should, as a matter of the safety of the public records, to say nothing of his pride in his own county and the necessity of new buildings, vote "yes" on the question of bonds.

Regardless of where the county capital shall be located, let us at all events have new county buildings.

Too Much to One Side.

The question of moving the county seat is beginning to stir up the people. According to reports in our community, nearly every town in the county is opposed to moving it to South Haven--it would be too much to one side. Reader Correspondent of the Decatur Republican.



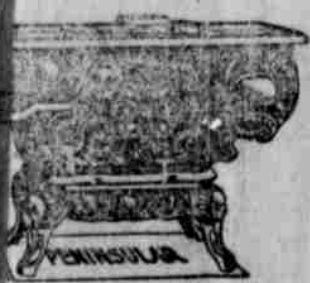
Silver-lined, \$1.75 and \$2.00.



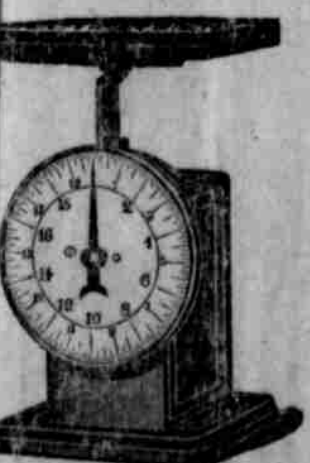
Granite Cups, 10c.
Green and White, 15c.



Silver-lined, \$1.50 and \$1.75.



Regular Cook Stove, \$18.00.



Household Scale, only \$1.00.

A LIST OF HIGH-GRADE House Furnishing Hardware At Prices that Speak.

GOOD GOODS SOLD REASONABLE

Has increased our trade year by year. We intend to keep on enlarging our business. Square dealing, high-grade merchandise, an up-to-date stock and OUR PRICES we think will do it.

Try Us on This Line of Goods!

We know that we can please you.
H. C. WATERS & CO.



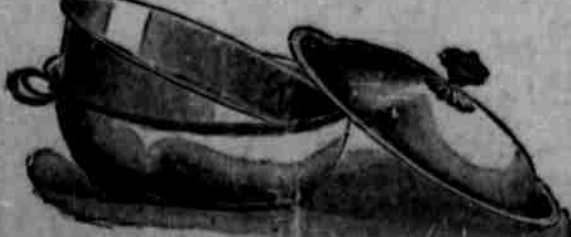
Meat Choppers, \$1.35.



Domestic.....\$5.00
Hibbard.....25.00
Conover.....18.75



Potato Masher.....25c.



Nickel-plated Serving Dish.....\$1.25